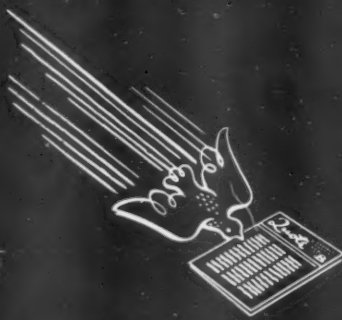


# Quote


VOL. 2

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA, DECEMBER 6, 1941

NO. 23



Consider the matter of strikes. The right to strike is inviolate—if it doesn't injure or endanger the public. A man is not free if he isn't free to stop work. But aren't soldiers free men, too? Surely they share all the rights of free men, yet they can't quit. If they attempt it, they are imprisoned or shot . . . There can be no "rights" that endanger the nation. If men can refuse to give the service their nation needs, it means that a few are free to destroy the nation that belongs to all.—ROBERT QUILLEN.



For those who will not be *Mentally Marooned*

# WORLD WEEK

If the current conflict has taught us anything, it is the futility of trying to judge war on a week to week basis. Yet we must make the obvious observation that the period just concluded has not been one of Hitler's better weeks. The news emanating from and relating to Russia, Yugoslavia, Turkey and Japan has hardly been of a nature to soothe the jangled nerves of the Fuehrer. Only in Libya has he found perhaps temporary consolation.

It has been a fortunate period for QUOTE forecasters. On the Libyan front, we told you to look for sharp fighting, and some surprises. The German break-thru and renewed siege of Tobruk was the answer. The threatened railroad strike has been settled by compromise, as suggested. And the week has seen fulfillment of a forecast we made some months ago, anticipating the further drafting of British women on the industrial front.

**RUSSIA:** Time may well prove that a certain Washington official was not too exuberant when he said this week that late bulletins from Russia constitute "the best news we have had in two years of war." In the Rostov sector we have, for the first time, the spectacle of Nazi troops in concerted retreat, and if we may judge from the dispatches, a rather disorderly retreat it is. It is too early to attach any great significance to this Russian thrust. No doubt the Germans will presently reorganize their forces and begin the plodding task of re-taking territory. But it is important to note, meanwhile, that Hitler has withdrawn forces from the Crimea, to aid in stopping the Russian onslaught. (He has also dispatched a considerable part of the Crimean air force to Libya). Thus it seems reasonable to assume that the Germans have little chance now of getting at Caucasian oil this winter.

*... — Seems increasingly evident that Herr Hitler committed a major faux pas when he told the German people weeks ago that Russian resistance was a thing of the past. For a defeated army, the Reds certainly are doing well.*

**LIBYA:** England has lost her chance for a quick knockout. Or it may be that she never had the opportunity. If Axis forces can contrive a continued retreat toward Tripoli, they will serve the double purpose of shortening their own supply lines while forcing British to extend theirs. From now on, fighting should be more even, but it seems logical to assume British have the edge, thru control of Mediterranean. French fleet might break the blockade—if Hitler can get it.

**YUGOSLAVIA:** As we have pointed out from time to time, war never has ceased in the Balkans. Serbian guerrilla bands now hold most of their native soil. Dispatches probably err in saying that this resistance is now "fully organized." Serbs are at their best in guerrilla

## Quote prophesies . . .

**JAPAN:** Tokio will not accept the Hull plan for peace in the Pacific. This doesn't necessarily imply immediate aggressive action. Japan now knows that U. S., and Britain are in earnest, and may move warily. We anticipate further Japanese effort to close Burma Road, although American fliers, serving China, make effective action increasingly difficult.

**LABOR:** House action in passing strong anti-strike measure was to be expected. Reflects public sentiment; strengthens home fences. Senate will temper bill, bring it more in line with Administration desires. Net result probably will not greatly impair labor's gains.

tactics; will doubtless continue to harass Nazis in small, irregular bands. Fact that Nazis have sent only 3 divisions (about 50,000 men) against 100,000 armed Serbs is indication Hitler may be running short of troops.

**TURKEY:** Here is nutshell summary of situation back of President's lend-lease announcement: Turkey has not asked U. S., for lend-lease aid; will receive none direct from this gov't. In Oct. 1939, Britain and Turkey made a pact, whereby British were to provide \$160,000,000 credits to Turkey, for purpose of modernizing her army. Turkey, in return, pledged that with this aid she could and would defend herself against aggressors. Britain, however, could not provide materiel and called on U. S. This gov't for six months has been shipping tanks, planes, etc., to Britain, for re-shipment to Turkey against British pledge. Subsequent shipments will continue under this plan, so there's nothing new. Roosevelt statement was just psychological ballyhoo.

We remain moderately skeptical of Turkey. Turks are opportunists and in a showdown will side with apparent winner. Turkish gov't would probably prefer to line up with Allies, but may be forced into Axis camp through pressure, or won thru diplomatic enticement.

*... — An Illinois bank, weathering the depression with ease, is now closing because "everybody is 'oil rich'; we can't make any loans."*

*Harwood*

Publisher.

# Quote

"He Who Never Quotes, is Never Quoted."—Charles Haddon Spurgeon

"They (the Legislators) have received the President's order to pass some sort of arbitration and cooling-off scheme, but whatever form this law takes, it will affect only war industries and it will be passed only because the President is more interested in fighting Hitler's dictatorship abroad than in saving Americans from the atrocities committed on his own subjects at home.

"You can paste that in your hat and check me on it, because this law will contain a backstairs clause . . . whereby the unionneers won't have to obey, although American businessmen, and the American stockholder, and the worker will."—WESTBROOK PEGLER, in his Syndicated Column.

"It was the workers of the nation who struggled to establish American democracy, and it is they who shall assure its preservation."—PHILIP MURRAY, President, C. I. O.

"To get American dollars we must sell American goods. And to find these goods to spare, we ration our people severely. This is the answer to those who ask why American women should knit sweaters and other things for Bundles for Britain, while British sweaters are being sold in American stores."—SIR KENNETH LEE, of the British Board of Trade.

"There is only one sure-fire breeder of ill-will, and that is international sports competition. . . . If Mr. Rockefeller is allowed to bring North and South American athletes together in Pan-American games to be held next year, the U. S., can't miss winning. That wouldn't help friendship one bit. If South America is to have any chance, they will have to add llama

"May we  
Quote  
you on that?"

clipping, Andes climbing, and speaking Spanish without an accent. Then we'll get mad."—HENRY McLEMORE, in his Syndicated Column.

"We can reasonably expect that the railroads will enter the misty realm of tomorrow carrying the heaviest tax load in the history of the industry, paying the highest wage rates they have ever paid, collecting the lowest average revenue per ton-mile within the memory of moderns, and committed to standards of service and maintenance that drastically limit the flexibility of expenses. Still I believe in the future of our industry."—ERNEST E. NORRIS, President, Southern Railway System.

"Adolph Hitler is what you call 'screwy,' but not what you call 'nuts'."—GERHART H. SEGER, Former Member of German Reichstag.

"The surprising thing to me is that prices have not gone up more than they have."—LEON HENDERSON, Price Administrator.

"Two years of war have brought bombs, death and destruction, but have not done away with that cherished institution—the British Weekend."—EDDY GILMORE.

"Japan is no threat. She is a nuisance and a pest. As a brat in the backyard, we must pin her ears down, so we can dispose of the Nazi thug in our front yard."—JAMES R. YOUNG, for 14 years a news correspondent in Japan.

"It is not a question of anybody coming in this war or staying out. Everybody is in it already. The difference is between consciously fighting in it or not fighting in it."—J. B. PRIESTLEY, English Author.

"There are two sides to every question. Yes and there are two sides to a sheet of flypaper, but it makes a whale of a difference to the fly which side he chooses to light on."—Rep. WILLIAM CARTWRIGHT of Okla., discussing Neutrality in his weekly letter to constituents.

"Nobody's ever going to tell me we can't afford decent homes and decent food and decent medical care—a chance for every British child to grow up into a useful, healthy and intelligent citizen. We can afford a war, can't we? We can certainly afford a peace."—British Cabinet Minister.

"The optimist proclaims that we live in the best of all possible worlds. The pessimist fears that is true."—JAMES BRANCH CABELL.

"I am old, deaf and dotty. Go ahead with your plans, but leave me alone."—GEORGE BERNARD SHAW, to officers of the newly-formed Shaw Society.

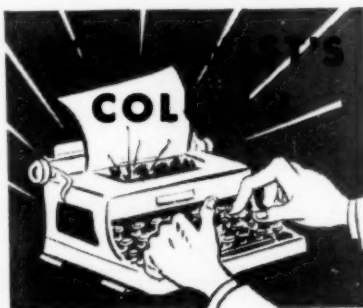
"If it isn't the sheriff, it's the finance company. I've got more attachments on me than a vacuum cleaner."—JOHN BARRYMORE.

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**ARMY—Morale**

One good way to obtain money for the cigarette fund is to take one cigarette from each new package and then when 10 are collected to "buy" them again from yourself or to "sell" them to a friend. The money thus obtained can be contributed to the fund. In an office where a score of smokers meet each other during the course of a working day, or in a factory department, quite a bit of money can be obtained in this way.—ROY DAVIS, "Cigarettes Are War Weapons," *Toronto (Canada) Star*, 11-29-'41.

**Stalin's Daughter**

By WILLIAM STAPLEY

Sixteen-year-old Svetlana Stalin, dark-haired, pretty, is Russia's "mystery girl." She was born in the mysterious Kremlin, has lived there all her life. Less is known about Svetlana than about the daughter of any other ruler in the world. Few people in Moscow would recognize her at sight. No picture of her has ever appeared—she has probably never been photographed.

The one thing clear about Svetlana is that she is the apple of her father's eye. She reminds him of her mother, Nadezhda Alliluieva, whom he wooed and won as a girl of 17, when he was a man of 40. She was Stalin's second wife (his first died in 1907). There were two children. The elder, a boy, Vassily, was born in 1921.

It was in 1932 that Nadezhdu died. The previous night, it had been said, she and Stalin went to the opera in Moscow. Peritonitis was given as the cause of death. But there were whispers that she had died of poisoning. These sprang from a widely held belief that she tasted every dish set before her husband. Her death shook Stalin as few things have ever done. Always hating strangers, he withdrew into even closer seclusion.

Presently Vassily was sent away to school at Leningrad. In due course, the girl was sent to one of the ordinary Moscow elementary schools. There was no fussing about her daily attendance. She went there like any other comrade's daughter, and it is doubtful whether her fellow pupils ever learned who she really was.

So Svetlana grew to girlhood. She inherited a love of study from her mother, a calm poise and quiet detachment from both parents. One of the accomplishments of Svetlana is piano playing. She plays quite well. Her fingers on the keyboard of the piano conjure up for Stalin memories of the little wife he wooed and won in his native Georgia.—Condensed from *Sunday Dispatch*, London.

**COMPETITION**

I know a most delightful man whose enjoyment of life is unique in our tense and harried struggle for existence. "I don't want to be first," he once told me. "If I go fishing, I don't have to catch the biggest trout. If I go to the movies, I don't have to have the best seat. Let the other fellow fight and jostle for these things. I'm going to enjoy life without this terrible competition."

And he does. He is relaxed, deliberate, genial. He has time for friends. He enjoys the little things that go to make up life. And oddly enough, he is often the winner at tennis, fishing, golf.—MIGNON QUAW LOTT, "Speaking of School Spirit," *The Journal of Education*, 11-'41.

**CONSERVATION**

Marshal Lyautey, the conqueror and organizer of Morocco, was interested in every aspect of his kingdom. One day, as he was riding through a forest of gigantic cedars, he came to a spot where a storm had up-rooted a great many trees. The natives had cut and taken away part of the fallen wood, so that there was a large open space. Lyautey called to his side the director of forestry, who, with other officials, followed in the procession.

"Look here," said Lyautey, "you will have to plant new cedars here." The director smiled. "Plant new cedars, sir. But it takes two thousand years to grow one of those trees."

Lyautey, for one minute, looked surprised. "Two thousand years?" he said. "Two thousand years? Well, then, we must begin at once."—ANDRÉ MAUROIS, "We Must Begin at Once," *Ladies' Home Journal*, 12-'41.

**CONVICTIONS—Courage of**

Several years ago the eminent Norwegian psychiatrist, Dr. Johann Scharfenberg, wrote a scholarly paper on the personality of Adolf Hitler, concluding that the Fuehrer was a madman. Soon after the Nazis occupied Norway, Gestapo agents entered Dr. Scharfenberg's home and asked him point-blank if he still held the same opinion.

"My opinion has changed in one respect," Dr. Scharfenberg replied. "When I wrote my article I believed Hitler was insane. Now I know it."—ALBERT DEUTSCH, PM.

**DEATH**

The only uncertain thing about death is the time it will occur.—*The Builder*.

**ART**

The damnable label of "permanence" which romance has affixed to the word "art" is one of the chief obstacles between the artist and his public. When you buy a car or a radio, you don't do so with the expectation of living with them the rest of your life. Buying art is not a life-or-death proposition. In my attic I have pictures which didn't quite live up to my trust. I acquired them when I liked them; I retired them when I stopped liking them or found something I liked better.—PEYTON BOWELL, *The Art Digest*, 11-15-'41.

**ATHEISM**

The Portuguese tell with glee the story of the man who, at the period when Alfonso Costa announced that henceforth there was to be no more religion and the people were no longer to believe in God or go to church, stood in a public square announcing his pleasure in this edict with the following words: "I am more than glad that I no longer need go to church. I no longer believe in God; I am an atheist and from now on I intend always to be an atheist, please God."—DELFINA PEIXOTO, "Move Over and Make Room," *The Pan American*, 11-'41.

**CHRISTMAS—Preparation for**

Each year at this season Charles S. Howard opens what must be one of the country's most specialized schools. The curriculum covers only subjects related to "How To Be a Santa Claus." Graduates receive the degree of B.S.C.—Bachelor of Santa Claus; secure employment in dept. stores.—*U S Week*, 11-22-'41.

**CHURCH—Christian**

The Christian Church is made up wholly of volunteers; there are no drafted men. In this lies its potential strength.—WILLIAM LYON PHELPS.

## DEFENSE—Materials

We've been talking to a top-flight OPMer who, after listening for an hour to his colleagues lament shortages, real and theoretical, of metals needed for shells, bombs and other Hitler eradicators, addressed the meeting with some heat. "There are in this country," said he, "more than ninety thousand statues and memorials to sailors, soldiers, politicians, philanthropists and occasions. Without the exact figures, I'd say that each contains not less than five tons of metal. The average would run about ten tons. That's plenty of metal—say close to a million tons counting the enclosing fences and incidental decorations. As art ninety-nine per cent of these memorials are monstrosities. If this be treason make the most of it but I still think that a million tons of bomb metal is what we need, to say nothing of what it would mean in non-defense demands."—WALTER DAVENTORT, *Collier's*, 11-29-'41.

## The Barefoot Boy of 1941

Blessings on thee, little man,  
Barefoot boy with cheeks of tan!  
Trudging down a dusty lane  
With no thought of future pain;  
You're our one and only bet  
To absorb the national debt.  
Little man with cares so few,  
We've a lot of faith in you;  
Guard each merry whistled tune,  
You may have to use it soon.  
Have your fun now while you can;  
You may be the barefoot man.

—The Journal of the American Medical Association, 11-22-'41.

## DEFENSE—Priorities

Sometimes OPM can't even get OPM to give OPM an OPM priority rating for OPM equipment. There have been times, an OPM spokesman said, when the chief clerk's office wanted some metal file cases or other pieces of equipment and placed an order for same. Whereupon the manufacturer said: "Now, look, you have to have a priority rating to get this." In many cases, OPM couldn't convince OPM and the rating wasn't high enough. So OPM didn't get the equipment.

## DISCONTENT

There are two kinds of discontent in this world: The discontent that works, and the discontent that wrings its hands. The first gets what it wants, and the second loses what it has.—GORDON GRAHAM.

## Questions and Answers about Hitler . . .

H. R. KNICKERBOCKER, the well-known foreign correspondent, has just written a fascinating book, *Is Tomorrow Hitler's* (Reynal & Hitchcock, \$2.50) consisting entirely of questions most frequently asked him concerning the Nazi regime, and the answers, developed thru years of first-hand experience and close observation. Mr. Knickerbocker lived in Germany before and during the Nazi regime. His data is generally regarded as authentic and complete. We present below a few excerpts from the book:

Q. Have you ever met Hitler?

A. Many times. From 1923 until today I have watched and studied him and a good part of the time I was close enough to have opportunities for firsthand observation. . . . The first impression he makes upon any non-German is that he looks silly. Not to a German, mind you, and I suppose he did not look silly to any of those heads of European states who crawled to Berchtesgaden to get their orders. . . . There is something absurd even about his stance as he rides his victorious chariot thru freshly conquered cities. He is softly fat about the hips and this gives his figure a curiously female appearance. . . . He realizes his femininity, is ashamed of it, and overcompensates by brutal behavior.

Q. Why didn't Hitler attack England after Dunkirk?

A. Because he did not expect France to collapse as speedily as she did. It was 55 days from the time of the French armistice to August 8, when Germans made their first mass air attack on Britain, preliminary to invasion. Those 55 days saved Britain.

Q. Can you tell, in a few words, just what Hitler means for us?

A. Yes, in the fewest words: Hitler means exactly what he says. He says the German people are a master race,

destined to rule the world. He says the German people have the power to enforce their rule on the world. He intends that they shall rule the world during his lifetime. He includes the United States in the world he intends to rule.

Q. What would happen if Hitler were to be killed?

A. It would reduce the German war effort by one-half, and would guarantee that Germany would lose.

Q. Why doesn't somebody kill Hitler? Is he too closely guarded to be killed?

A. Not all ails. Several attempts have been made on Hitler's life, but without proper preparation. Now, however, there are other considerations. For example, my Jewish friends point out that if a Jew killed Hitler, as many brave young Jews would willingly do, the Nazis would slaughter every Jew in their dominions—perhaps five or six million in all.

Q. What is the best way for U. S. to help Russia?

A. The best way is for us to go to war against Germany. Our declaration of war against Germany would be of more value to Russian resistance than all the war supplies we shall ever be able to send the Soviet Union.

## EDUCATION—Negro

Theodore Roosevelt was talking with the then president of the General Education Board, and during the conversation mentioned that he was going to endorse industrial and agricultural training for the Negro, but no more.

"And where will you train teachers for these subjects?" asked the educator.

"Yes, of course," said the Rough-rider President, "there must be normal schools. But I stop there."

"Where shall we train the teachers for the normal schools?" was the next question.

"Ah, I see," replied Roosevelt. "Once you start in education, you cannot stop!"—KIMMIS HARTLEY HENDRICK, "The Wide Horizon," *The Christian Science Monitor*, 11-26-'41.

## GERMANY—Salvation

Germany has a conundrum which goes like this: "Hitler, Goering and Goebbels were in an airplane. It crashed. Who was saved?"

The answer is "The German people."

## HATE

If we knew as much about mental health as we do about physical health, an epidemic of hate would be considered as dangerous as an epidemic of typhoid.—DR. DAVID M. LEVY, Psychiatrist.

Take another look at Hitler's picture. It is the face that will have launched 1,400 American ships by the end of 1943.—*New York Times*.

## News of the New

**CHEMISTRY:** Family auto may be running on sweet potatoes some soon day, according to S. T. Schicklanz, gov't chemical engineer. Dep't of Agriculture is spending million dollars in tests, seeking method whereby alcohol can be produced cheaply from farm products, and in sufficient quantity to substitute for gasoline. Theory is not new, but has not heretofore been studied on large-scale basis.

**DEFENSE:** Navy dep't this week, putting out call for increased enlistments for training in radio maintenance, hinted at existence of secret navy weapon for use in detecting ships and airplanes at great distance. Device is said to be already in use.

**INVENTION:** Well, it's here at last—a fountain pen with a built-in blotter!

"Predunked" doughnuts have appeared on the market. Flavored with coffee, they are boon to timid dunkers.

**PROCESSES:** It's only a matter of months until Americans will be wearing dresses and other garments made from milk. New fiber from casein (by-product of skim milk) has been found acceptable by American textile industry, and actual manufacturing is under way.

**SCIENCE:** In the terminology of Alice in Wonderland, Science gets "curiouser and curiouser." Two examples:

Your grandchildren may take a trip to the moon, according to Dr. Dismore Alter, Director Griffith Astronomical Observatory, Los Angeles. First flight, it seems, depends on development of a new element, known as Uranium 235. "It's possible to send objects to the moon right now" says Dr. Alter. "Just a matter of fuel and cost." Rocket to span the 232,000 miles would cost \$100,000,000. How about getting back? That's okay, say scientists. Planet's gravitational pull is only a sixth that of the earth.

Dr. Herbert Shapiro, of Philadelphia, astonished American Philosophical Society last week by asserting, "We have a rabbit whose daddy was a cube of ice." Ice was inserted surgically into abdomen of mother rabbit to chill unfertilized ova. The "ice-water" rabbit, a female, is perfectly normal; has had two litters of young by normal reproduction.

### HOPE—For Children

In front of the ruin that had been their home were an old woman, her daughter, and her granddaughter. The two grown-ups were stolid, heavy, expressionless with grief. They sat humped on the broken steps that led to no doorway . . . and their eyes said nothing at all. But suddenly the child at play laughed gaily and broke into song. Stabbed by the sound, her mother started to her feet angrily. But the grandmother put out a restraining hand. "Don't," she said. "Don't stop her. The children will sing again."—BONARO W. OVERSTREET, "Listen . . . Do You Hear Any Angels," *National Parent Teacher*, 12-41.

### IRONY

Atop Laurel Hill, one of the loveliest spots in the country, stands a newly completed Home for the Blind. Its windows look out on the peace and grandeur of mountain and river, on golden wheat fields flirting with the wind. The inmates are the city poor, dwellers all their lives in the dark stench of slum tenements, who become eligible for the Home only when they have lost their sight.—MARTIN O. GANNETT, M.D., "Good Morning Nurse!" *Medical Economics*, 11-41.

### JAPANESE-AMERICAN RELATIONS

Japan is engaged in a long-term program to establish hegemony over Asia and, eventually, to dominate the world. To this end she has ordered her whole national life, from the cradle to the grave. She has cultivated a spirit of militarism among her people and indoctrinated them with the belief that they are especially endowed of the Creator and that unremitting allegiance to the Emperor, who is of divine descent, is rewarded with a seat among the gods. It is impossible, then, from their point of view, for the Japanese to brook interference with their heaven-directed program. He who challenges Japan insults heaven. And it is one of the great ironies of history that Japanese animosity is now directed particularly against the very nation which broke the shell of her insularity and introduced Japan to modern civilization. — SYNGMAN RUEE, *Japan Inside Out*, (Revel, \$2).

### LABOR—Strikes

To a worker who is "fed up" with the monotony of his work a strike is an interesting and even glamorous adventure. Like war itself, the strike is an escape.—FLOYD L. RUEE, *Psychology and Life*, (Foresman).

### Ferry Tales

From London comes the story that American pilots ferrying U. S. made bombers to Britain, are capitalizing on England's silk stocking shortage.

Slipping a pair of stockings in his pocket, the pilot presents one stocking to a British girl on the first date, promises her the other when and if he gets a second date.

A pilot in the ferrying service tells of presenting a chocolate bar to a British girl. "She promptly broke the bar in two and returned half to me. 'Don't you want it?' I asked. 'Oh, yes' she replied, 'but don't you want to give part of it to someone else?'"

### NEWS—Interpretation

The German propaganda office had sent through a dispatch to Norway marked for "prominent display." It began: "During recent weeks there has been an utterly fantastic increase in the membership of the Nasjonal Samling (Quisling's party) in and around Oslo."

The resourceful editor's headline: "UTTERLY FANTASTIC."—*Norwegian Official Press Service*.

### PARENT-CHILD RELATIONS

At breakfast one morning the child pushed her cereal away, pettishly announcing that she did not want it and would not eat any of the breakfast.

"Well, dear, what would you like?"

A whimper: "I want a worm."

Daddy, who would not deprive her of her slightest wish, hurried to the garden and returned with a nice fat one which he laid on spoiled daughter's plate. "There you are, my dear."

Indignant sobs: "But I want it cooked!"

It was sent into the kitchen, rolled in batter, cooked and brought back.

Sobs again: "I want Daddy to have half!"

Daddy divided the worm, pulled himself together and managed to get his portion down.

This time sobs and howls: "But that was the part I wanted!"—*The Journeyman Barber Hairdresser and Cosmetologist*, 11-41.

### PHILOSOPHY

Philosophy is the discovery that you might be worse off than you are.—*Irish Digest*.



## PREJUDICE

Prejudice is a great time-saver. It enables one to form opinions without bothering to get the facts.—*Kitchener (Canada) Record.*

## REFUGEES

A prominent actress tried to insert this advertisement in two New York dailies . . . —"URGENT. No Charity . . . —To BUY THREE HUMAN LIVES. . . —Two brothers, engineers, and the wife of one—an excellent cook, expert in making artificial flowers. . . —Will be found in Prague, if they don't commit suicide before deportation . . . —\$5,000 for all the three . . . —References from an American Minister who knows them personally and can vouch for their moral standing . . . —The \$5,000 are needed to ship them to Cuba . . . —URGENT. BUY THREE HUMAN LIVES." . . . —The two newspapers refused the ad, both explaining: "Slavery has been abolished in America."—LEONARD LYONS, *The Advocate*, 11-14-'41

## SAFETY—Safe Driving

Following a successful test last year, several transportation companies in mid-western cities are launching "charter-a-bus" campaigns, to keep drunken drivers off the streets New Year's eve.

Groups that anticipate moving from place to place, charter a bus for the evening. The driver delivers the company to a designated spot; waits until they are ready to move elsewhere. In the early hours of the morning, he drops them off at their respective homes. Cost averages \$10 or \$15 for an evening.

" "

"Give Courtesy for Christmas!" Yuletide suggestion of Nat'l Safety Council.

## UNDERSTANDING

A silk hosiery manufacturer and an aluminum household utensil manufacturer sat next to each other at the club. Both remained quiet for many minutes, gazing with worried and beaten expressions into space. Finally one of them gave vent to a long-drawn-out sigh. The other looked around sympathetically and said:

"You're telling me!"

## VALUES—Changing

How standards of value change. . . . Once the man whose house was held together by nails was the envy of the community. Worse luck, the time may be near when he will be again. What's the defense housing

# American Scene

## A Creed for Americans

By STEPHEN VINCENT BENET

We believe in the dignity of man and the worth and value of every living soul, no matter in what body housed. We believe that every man should have a free and equal chance to develop his own best abilities under a free system of government, where no man can set himself up as a tyrant or oppress the many for the benefit of the few.

We believe that free speech, free assembly, free elections, free practice of religion are the cornerstones of such a government. We believe that the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights of the United States of America offer the best and most workable framework yet devised for such a government.

We believe in justice and law.

We believe that political freedom implies and acknowledges economic responsibility. We do not believe that any state is an admirable state that lets its people go hungry when they might be fed, ragged when they might be clothed, sick when they might be well, workless when they might have work.

We believe that it is the duty of all of us, the whole people, working through our democratic system, to see that such conditions are remedied, whenever and wherever they exist in our country.

We believe that political freedom

implies and acknowledges personal responsibility. We believe that we have a great and priceless heritage of material resources, liberties, dreams, ideals, ways of going forward. We believe it is our business, our right and our inescapable duty to maintain and expand that heritage.

We know that our democratic system is not perfect. We know that it permits injustices and wrongs. But with our whole hearts we believe in its continuous power of self-remedy. Through the years, democracy has given more people freedom, less persecution and a higher standard of living than any other system we know.

And so, we believe in democracy—in its past, its present and its future. We believe in democracy as a political system to live by, and as a hope in the minds of the free. We believe it is so deeply rooted in the earth that neither assault from without, nor dissension from within can ever wipe it entirely from the earth.

But, because it was established for us by the free-minded and the daring, it is our duty now, in danger as in security, to uphold and sustain it with all that we have and are. We believe that its future shall and must be even greater than its past. And to the future—as to the past of our forebears and the present of our hard-won freedom—we pledge all we have to give.—Condensed from the original Creed written for the Council of Democracy.

coordinator going to do to the values we set on things? That's the question.

"Pssst! Heard about old BooBoo Clarksen! He's got two new brass faucets on his laundry tubs."

"No!"

"Um. And his daughter's gonna marry a fellow with copper coils in his heating system and a galvanized eaves trough."

"Son-of-a-gun!"

"Yep—and besides that his wife's old man died and left her six cast iron sash weights and three brass elbows."

"Wow. What else you heard?"

"Plenty. You know that 90-acre farm BooBoo owned overlooking the bay?"

"Yeh."

"Traded it for a dozen hinges and eight feet of iron pipe."

"Smart."

"Smart's a whip. Told me he was workin' through a couple of Senators for six steel door knobs and some window fastenings."

"He'll get 'em, too."

"You said it. That boy's on the make. He'll have a complete house, practically, 'fore he dies."—*Providence Evening Bulletin.*

## WOMAN

Modern woman has ceased to be merely man's mate and has become man's match.—LEWIS BROWNE, author.

# GENS FROM Yesteryear

The Idiot Goes  
Christmas Shopping  
By JOHN KENDRICK BANGS

Mr. Bangs was one of the few authentic American humorists who delighted to talk as well as to write. He became one of the most popular lecturers and after-dinner speakers of his day. At the age of 21, the author began his career as an associate editor of *Life* magazine, then a humorous weekly. Later he was associated with Harper's and with Puck. His book, *Half-Hours With the Idiot* (Little, Brown, 1917) from which this excerpt is taken, is an acknowledged classic. Mr. Bangs died in 1922, aged sixty.

"Mercy, Mr. Idiot" cried Mrs. Pedagog, as the Idiot entered the breakfast room very much disheveled. "You look as if you had been dropped out of an aeroplane."

"Yes, Mrs. Pedagog" said the Idiot, wearily "I feel that way. I started in to do my Christmas shopping early yesterday, and this is the dreadful result. I went to Jimson & Slithers' department store, and seeing an attractive bargain table at the end of the middle aisle, I tried to get to it."

"You should have known better than to try to get through such a crowd in these days" said the Doctor. "How are your ribs?"

"Know better?" retorted the Idiot. "How was I to know any better? There the thing was, ready to do business, and nothing but a lot of tired-looking women about it. It looked easy enough, but after I managed to get in as far as the second layer from the outside, I discovered it wasn't. It required all my strategy to navigate my face away from the multitude of hatpins that surged about me. Three cigars I carried in my pocket were shredded into food for moths, and I give you my word, to keep from being smothered to death by ostrich feathers, I bit off the tops of at least 15 hats thrust in my face. At one time I counted 8 ladies standing on my feet instead of their own. . . ."

"Great Heavens!" said the Poet. "What an experience! And you had to go through it again to escape?"

"Not on your life" said the Idiot. "I folded my shredded overcoat into a pillow, lay down and went to sleep there until time to close the shop at night. Then I arose and sneaked out."

# Good Stories YOU CAN USE...

The mother of a young kindergartner was more than a little surprised when her precious offspring returned from class one afternoon recently, singing an improvisation, picked up goodness only knows where: "Three Kings of the Orient we are; Daddy beat me eight to the bar—while we are chasing Hedy Lamarr!"

## "I LAUGHED AT THIS ONE"

DR. MARTIN G. GANNETT

The majority of patients seeking surcease from obesity are spurred by the hope of cosmetic improvement, or relief from physical disability. Not so Sam Binks.

"It's like this, Doctor" said the 315-pounder. "I'm a bookmaker, see. Nothin' big. I just roll around, pick up a bet here and there, then I phone 'em in to a fellow what can pay off when he loses. Well, I do my business in a telephone booth, and the last couple days I can't squeeze myself in no more. So I gotta get me down, see? If I don't reduce, I'll starve!"—*Medical Economics.*

Here's one of those crazy things that make the rounds periodically. We picked this version from June Provines' column in the new *Chicago Sun*:

Sir Lancelot was lost one dark night in a deep woods. He wandered about helplessly and after some hours encountered a handsome St. Bernard dog. The dog attached himself to Sir Lancelot, and they went on together for some time. Then the knight, exhausted, sat on the back of the magnificent animal. It dutifully took him straightway to a tavern. Sir Lancelot knocked at the door. "Could you give me bed and board?" he inquired of the proprietor. The tavern keeper peered out into the darkness. "Who am I to turn out a knight on a dog like this?" he answered.

" "

Ten word fish story: Fish, wish, bait, wait, bite, flight, roam, home, buy, lie.

A drunk, attending an auction, began bidding on a parrot. Each bid brought an answering offer, just a trifle higher. Finally, the bird was knocked down to the inebriated one for \$17.40.

Taking Polly under his arm, the successful bidder stumbled out of the auction house and down the street. At the corner, he paused and exclaimed to himself: "G-g-good grief! Here I've gone and paid \$17.40 for a parrot, and I don't even know whether the blamed bird can talk!"

"Talk?" squawked Polly. "Say, who do you suppose was doing that bidding against you?"

## WISECRACKS of the Week

A woman's maiden aim is to change her maiden name.—*Chicago Daily News.*

" "

Love is one game that is never postponed on account of darkness.—*Dunnville Chronicle.*

" "

He had traveled in the best circles until he couldn't go straight.—*MARCELENE COX, Ladies' Home Journal.*

" "

When a salesman resorts to throwing dirt you can be sure he's losing ground.—*U. S. Sales Promoter.*

" "

Some motorists drive miles out of their way when touring; others never ask natives along the route for directions.—*Buffalo Evening News.*

A filling station man answered the distress call of a stalled car some few miles down the road. Arriving at the scene, he found the fluttering female driver, pulling and jerking and peering but to no avail.

His brief once-over revealed that the car was out of gas.

"Oh," sighed the lady with relief. "I'm so glad that's the only trouble. But do you suppose it would hurt the car if I drove home on an empty tank?"



